MORT SAHL INTERVIEW: The rise of Fascism in the U.

(continued from last week)

PAUL EBERLE

MS: The liberals can't say they don't know the Warren Report was a fraud. There's been too much evidence to the contrary. Yet, their response has been to turn against the critics of the Warren Report, and say, "Well, we really don't need to know.

FP: Sad to say, that seems to be a natural penchant of the people. In Western movies, the people always rally behind the good guy and crucify the bad guys. But in real life, it usually goes the other way.

MS: Yes, that's very true, because as fascism grows in the United States, as it moves through large communities and it works its coercion, people are going along with it. In the case of liberals a great many people and the progressive elements in the community for instance are Jewish, and they're going along. That means they're playing the same game they played with Hitler. They think they can buy out. And they're in error. The people who came for Jack Kennedy's skull are coming for our's fifteen minutes later. You don't have to be a prophet to see the handwriting on the wall. But these people are making that same mistake. I now understand the problem of the Jews in Germany in the Thirties. I understand it by seeing what's happening to my own country. It's getting worse, and it is said very often, we do not live in the same country we were born in, which I think is quite accurate. And I think that the... I also understand a great deal more about and ignore the problem and try to go on the stage and of course the whole thing will collapse. And, of course, the whole thing is collapsing. The irony of fascism is that it has never won. The most successful fascist in history is Hitler, who had twelve years, which is less years than Franklin D. Roosevelt had, a virtuous man in my eyes in my lifetime, so they don't even come near the attainments of virtuous men. But the trouble is, when they go down, they take everybody with them. It's a collective offering. When this goes under we're going to lose too. They're going to blow us up too. I can't laugh at them from any Olympian height. We can't say, as the cartoons used to say in the FREE PRESS a couple of years ago, "The hell with gon scoffing at me now as the liberals scoffed at me for many years." He tells about Ellsworth Bunker and Adolph Berle—they laughed at him. But I would remind them today the word of Jesus is heard everywhere in the land, but nobody can hear the trumpets of the legions of Rome. He's a moderate man. He looks upon Castro as more of an extremist than we do. So if a man like that couldn't be dealt with by the intelligence community, you can imagine where they stand.

FP: He's hardly a radical. He's a moderate, democratic social reformist.

MS: That's right.

FP: But getting back to what you were riffing on before about she vanished. Nobody can find her now on the case. The man who was seized at Passport Control is not the same man who was tried here. It's obvious that it was a conspiracy and that it was an ordered conspiracy in the case of Martin Luther King. Also King's brother, who suddenly is deemed an alcoholic by the press. And now we come to the role of the press in America which I think is really important. The press is an accessory to these murders, because if it wasn't sure that the press would not audit its actions, it would not move so gingerly. The Warren Report was done in such tawdry fashion because they were sure, it was prearranged, that nobody would bother them. When Garrison tries Shaw for thirty-seven write?" So Garrison playe straight, he said "Do they?" the guy said "No, I've bee the TIMES eighteen years, no one has ever told me wha write. Although I will admit I know pretty much what to t in." To which Garrison ret ed, "Then no one has to tell what to write." So it saves government a lot of calls. I lieve that most men are so c rupt now that they are unc scious members of a conspir of ignorance.

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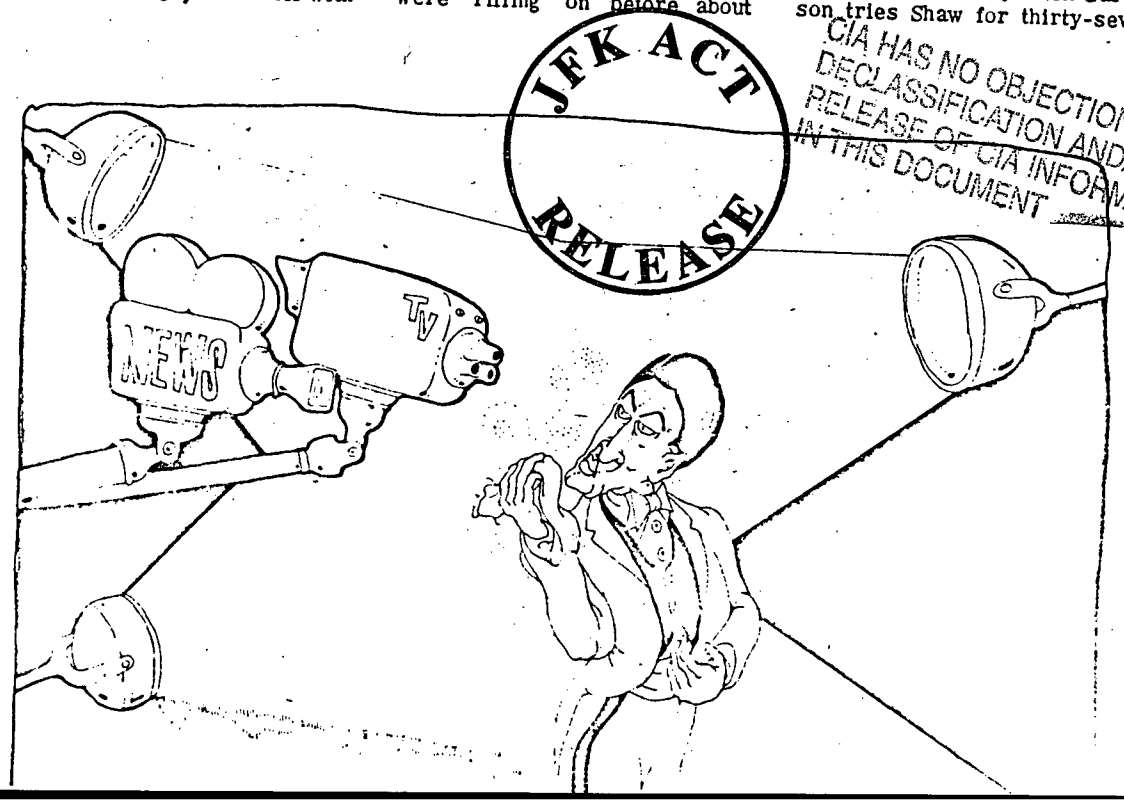

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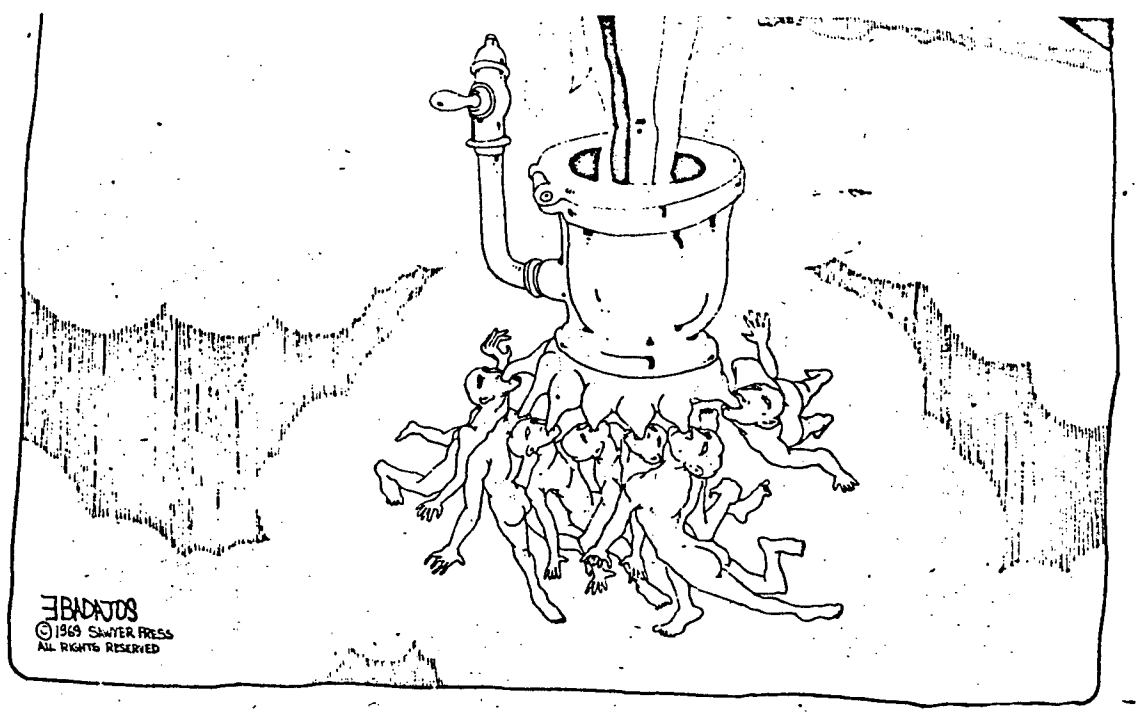
FP: And know which side their bread is buttered on.
MS: You bet! They have an unerring nose. Jack Kennedy's body was still warm when they were busy deferring to Lyndon Johnson. That's exactly what it's all about. The same men were going to back Teddy Kennedy for the presidency, but before his suit was dry they knew that he wasn't of the moral character of Richard Nixon and could never approach the White House and be our leader. Absolutely. That's what we're talking about. It sounds like we've got them psyched out. I know the nature of the beast, because I've been to the gallows too many times. I smell the pack the same way I can tell when any spook approaches us, which they try more often than not.

Garrison file

If, indeed, Jesus existed, the people that did him in were the people who knew he was correct. But he was always coming over and rapping on their door when they were having a party. Telling them... and he'd come in and he'd say, "What are you doing," and they'd say, "Here I am in bed with my mother," and he'd say, "Well, you can't do that," and they'd say, "We could until you came over." It seemed alright until you came here and looked upon us with scorn. Get him out of here." They were always covering their eardrums when he was around. Now he couldn't have been an evangelist, because no one wants to crucify Billy Graham or Oral Roberts or Mr. Hargis or Cardinal MacIntyre. Well, that's exactly what's happened here. Now when Garrison went into court, what could he do? Could he really say to twelve middle class people on the jury, "Here is as bizarre and elaborate a scheme that will make Goldfinger look like Alice in Wonderland?" Could the people digest that? Well, that's almost indigestible. To put on trial an elaborate, twenty-five-year old intelligence community in America—you can't render that in one courtroom setting. When the summations were made to the jury, Shaw's chief counsel, Mr. Diamond said, "If you find this man guilty, you're indicting our entire way of life. You're saying everyone in the government lies." In other words, you're writing out a prescription.

FP: He was right.

MS: So they had to decide. And Mr. Garrison said, "You'll have to make a choice whether you want to live in Mr. Diamond's America or mine." And obviously they decided that it's very difficult. Because once you spell out what's wrong, then of course, it's much as if we were writing a play. If you assert to me what's wrong with the second act, I've got to go back to the hotel and rewrite it, or we can't get to the third act. So the only thing I can do is be completely irrational and say, "I don't agree with you; we've got a hell of a second act,"



you and your bomb." Well, it's our bomb too. They're going to take us with them.

FP: Yes. They're going to take us with them and we're all going to end up in rubble like the people in Berlin did.

MS: We can't win it. Now, as Juan Bosch says in an excellent book called PENTAGONISM, he says he thinks that the American people, his thesis is that this country has been colonized by the Pentagon. He says we are not governed by the people we elect so it is not our option to change the government. He says it's too late for Americans, but the rest of the world doesn't want to die. Whether we and the Russians want to die or not, the rest of the world doesn't so opt. And so, he says, there will be a network of countries that will finally quarantine the United States and the Soviet Union in the interest of not blowing up the planet in a chain reaction. And he says at the end of the book in a very telling phrase, "I can hear the people at the Penta-

James Earl Ray, or at least one of the James Earl Rays, whom many people say is not the same man who was allegedly on the scene at the killing of King, the FBI seemed to be operating in London as authoritatively as they do in New York and Los Angeles.

MS: I was in London in April. England is to the United States what Czechoslovakia is to Russia. Right now. The FBI and the CIA operate openly there. When the FBI visited and terrorized Ray's landlady at the Pax Hotel in Pimlico in London they talked with utter disregard —I mean there wasn't even the discretion of "We'll deny this if you..." I mean they threatend her as if she was a... as if she was on American territory. You see, we've even come to accept it here. (Laughter) That's the point. Complete disregard for her rights. Peter Dawnay...

FP: She vanished?

MS: Yes. First she wouldn't meet Dawnay to discuss it, and then

days you have the kind of revelations that I handed you in this transcript that we discussed tonight but you've never heard them except from a nightclub comedian in a random meeting in Los Angeles, then I have to ask you, "What about all the newspapers that were down there? What happened? What happened to all those guys?" Garrison had a famous conversation once with a man from the NEW YORK TIMES. He said "You don't seem to be reading much about this trial." The TIMES ran four articles attacking Garrison as unethical. At one time they asked for his resignation and mine too. Since I'm not working, that's somewhat hard to accomplish. (Laughter) You know I'd like to accomodate them because that is the best newspaper in America, obviously, by acclamation, which will give you an idea of the rest of the press. Anyway, the guy from the TIMES became very irritated, and he said to Garrison, "Do you think the government tells us what to

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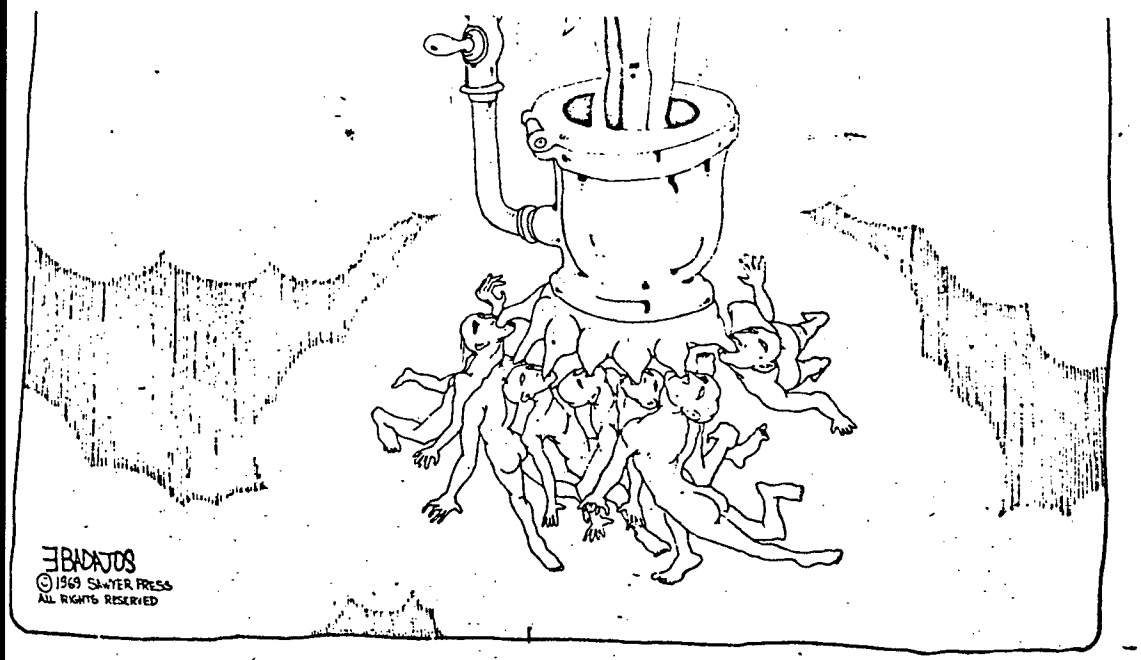

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- SPINDEL, BERNARD B. #M342 001-S

Mort Sahl interview: The rise of Fascism

(Continued from Page 3)

it's had on them is none. I feel like I've been fed through a pencil sharpener. But they're all happy and prosperous. They feel good. They're cooking with the system. What are they really saying? How could no newspaper in America report anything favorable about the trial? How do they all know that they're not supposed to? How can you get a consensus like that? What are there—four hundred newspapers in America? Why can't there be one exception?

FP: We tried.

MS: It's extremely difficult, I know. The people just don't like the message that Garrison brings. He's telling them that they've neglected their own house for twenty years, it's termite-ridden, and it's coming down. They don't want to hear that. So they send the telegraph boy away because they object to the contents of the wire, as Gene McCarthy used to say.

FP: He's telling them that their whole society is rotten from top to bottom and that they are an inseparable part of it.

MS: And they don't choose to hear that. They don't want to hear that. What they want to do, the CBS newsmen want to do, is a documentary on perhaps the difficulties of laboratory work for the Navy on an alternate Sunday.

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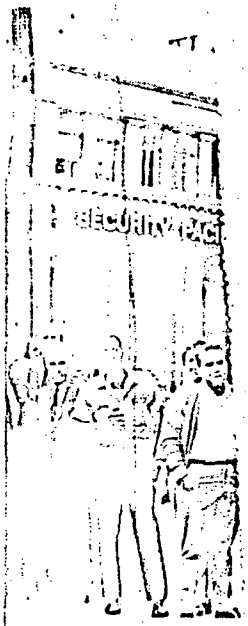

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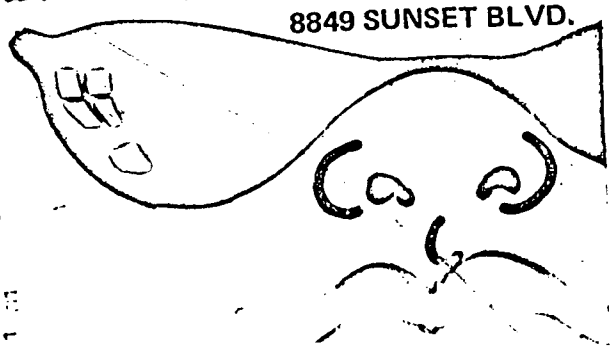

EAT

They want to say "it's a racist society." After all, a good example is the thing with Angela Davis at UCLA. Which people want to talk about—you notice that the liberals would much rather talk about, "Well, she's a black woman, and is this a racist move?" But they don't much want to defend her right to belong to the Communist Party.

FP: Well, you know, they used to say, "regardless of race, color, or creed." They don't say "creed" anymore.
MS: They don't.

FP: Isn't that interesting. Why don't they? A creed is a more dangerous thing than a race or color.
MS: Because the country, for one thing, is being ruled by people who don't believe in anything.

FP: They have no creed and they're very much afraid of anyone who has.
MS: That's evident. And it's a betrayal of what the country's about. It's a betrayal of Tom Jefferson, certainly. There's a very telling line in the movie Easy Rider. In fact, I think the only telling line, when Jack Nicholson says, you know, "this used to be a pretty good country." That line is right out of Frank Kapra in 1936. It's true. It was. Well, look what you have. Truman and Johnson both represent themselves as the continuity of leadership from Roosevelt and Kennedy respectively, and it's a complete reversal of foreign policy. It's a complete betrayal, in fact. And then Nixon comes along as an alternative to Johnson and what he is in continuity with Johnson. And that's how they lie to the people. The President has no power any more. The power in our generation has shifted from Senate to the White House to the Pentagon. The President goes to the airport and meets people. Like Golda Meier. That's what he does. And only that at a respectable distance as a matter of fact. The power is in the Pentagon and the adjuncts of the intelligence agencies. The difference is that when Senator Fulbright says seventy percent of the CIA budget is spent in the United States that means since their job is overthrowing governments the one they want to overthrow is this one. And they did. They did a darn good job. The irony in the Garrison case—one of the ironies—is that if you had no evidence prior to the Warren report. The hypergalvanized action of the CIA to button up the case assuming that one of its people was involved, as in the case of Shaw, how they sprang into action to stop the trial would immediately bring suspicion down around them and the agency has to be covered to such a

point that you saw, not only does it implicate itself in the Garrison case but you saw recently with President Nixon he emasculated General Abrams because of the agency, because the choice was that or the agency.

FP: Abrams wanted to prosecute those guys.
MS: That's right. He didn't want murder to become an everyday thing in the United States Army. He may be a little late, but at least there's a little idealism there as far as I can see. And General Abrams was cut off at the knees by the President of the United States on orders of Richard Helms. And the media told us that. We were told additionally the next night by ABC news that one hundred Americans shot down because they're bombing Laos cannot be released because the United States cannot negotiate for them because the United States has never acknowledged that they are there. Not only that, but the CIA has told the Pentagon that it has its own re-

FP: And aren't some of the top executives of the TV networks company men, CIA men?
MS: Well, you know, the question is, how much do they tell you? The news departments are what I'm interested in. Stringers. I'd like to know where they come from. But as far as CIA personnel sometimes they come along and openly tell you. For instance, at ABC here, there's a commentator named Marv Gray who says he's a CIA operative. He's very proud of that background. You find more and more of it. Dr. Henry Kissinger working for Nixon, I notice that six of his staff left and went back to the CIA. What did they do for the President that fitted them for service with the CIA?

GRAY, MARVIN
MITCHELL —
#23791

FP: Maybe they had some background there before, to qualify them.
MS: So, you know, the question is, the network involvement is very odd. The first documentary done against Garrison was done by NBC. Frank McGee narrated it. It was written with inaccuracies which NBC is certainly not famous for, they are a top organization but they went ahead and took the chance, all the things about "Who is Clay Bertrand?" etc.

FP: They answered the questions for you.
MS: They answered the questions. They answered them inaccurately. Now this NBC was also involved with helping one of the witnesses who was a fugitive from justice in Louisiana, Gordon Novell, to hide out in Columbus, Ohio. I don't know why a network would want to involve itself in that way. The CBS contribution, of course, was the four hour report.

FP: In which they also asked the questions and gratuitously furnished the answers.
MS: Most freedom I've seen so far has been ABC. Bill Bonds locally and Jim Lawrence were very favorable to Garrison.

FP: Jim Lawrence is a very excellent newsman.
MS: I'm glad to hear it corroborated, because from all I could see, he seems to be. I called Bonds after one of the programs to thank him for the objectivity. Because I think it takes some courage.

You see, one, when there's a wave of social action like the marches for the Vietnamese War or marches for equal rights or something, then the government has to do something. There's never been a groundswell of public opinion for opening the public

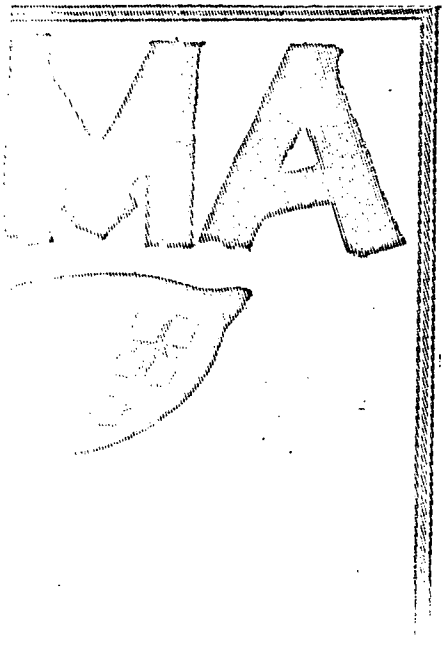
Come to
Bimbo country.

anymore.
MS: They don't.

FP: Isn't that interesting. Why don't they? A creed is a more dangerous thing than a race or color.
MS: Because the country, for one thing, is being ruled by people who don't believe in anything.

FP: They have no creed and they're very much afraid of anyone who has.
MS: That's evident. And it's a betrayal of what the country's about. It's a betrayal of Tom Jefferson, certainly. There's a very telling line in the movie Easy Rider. In fact, I think the only telling line, when Jack Nicholson says, you know, "this used to be a pretty good country." That line is right out of Frank Kapra in 1936. It's true. It was. Well, look what you have. Truman and Johnson both represent themselves as the continuity of leadership from Roosevelt and Kennedy respectively, and it's a complete reversal of foreign policy. It's a complete betrayal, in fact. And then Nixon comes along as an alternative to Johnson and what he is in continuity with Johnson. And that's how they lie to the people. The President has no power any more. The power in our generation has shifted from Senate to the White House to the Pentagon. The President goes to the airport and meets people. Like Golda Meier. That's what he does. And only that at a respectable distance as a matter of fact. The power is in the Pentagon and the adjuncts of the intelligence agencies. The difference is that when Senator Fulbright

Come to Bimbo country.



immediately bring suspicion down around them and the agency has to be covered to such a

point that you saw, not only does it implicate itself in the Garrison case but you saw recently with President Nixon he emasculated General Abrams because of the agency, because the choice was that or the agency.

FP: Abrams wanted to prosecute those guys.
MS: That's right. He didn't want murder to become an everyday thing in the United States Army. He may be a little late, but at least there's a little idealism there as far as I can see. And General Abrams was cut off at the knees by the President of the United States on orders of Richard Helms. And the media told us that. We were told additionally the next night by ABC news that one hundred Americans shot down because they're bombing Laos cannot be released because the United States cannot negotiate for them because the United States has never acknowledged that they are there. Not only that, but the CIA has told the Pentagon that it has its own recovery operation to bring them back. They speak about it openly now. One of the hallmarks of this era is that there's no sham any more. They're openly saying what they're doing. They're quite defiant. In other words, you have Tom Reddin on the air. You don't have a guy like Reddin handing the items to a guy who looks like an arrow shirt ad to read them. You have TV Guide saying "Smothers Brothers are fired; it's about time," instead of playing impartial although active behind the scenes.

Dr. Henry Kissinger working for Nixon, I notice that six of his staff left and went back to the CIA. What did they do for the President that fitted them for service with the CIA?

FP: Maybe they had some background there before, to qualify them.
MS: So, you know, the question is, the network involvement is very odd. The first documentary done against Garrison was done by NBC. Frank McGee narrated it. It was written with inaccuracies which NBC is certainly not famous for, they are a top organization but they went ahead and took the chance, all the things about "Who is Clay Bertrand?" etc.

FP: They answered the questions for you.
MS: They answered the questions. They answered them inaccurately. Now this NBC was also involved with helping one of the witnesses who was a fugitive from justice in Louisiana, Gordon Novell, to hide out in Columbus, Ohio. I don't know why a network would want to involve itself in that way. The CBS contribution, of course, was the four hour report.

FP: In which they also asked the questions and gratuitously furnished the answers.
MS: Most freedom I've seen so far has been ABC. Bill Bonds locally and Jim Lawrence were very favorable to Garrison.

FP: Jim Lawrence is a very excellent newsman.
MS: I'm glad to hear it corroborated, because from all I could see, he seems to be. I called Bonds after one of the programs to thank him for the objectivity. Because I think it takes some courage.

You see, one, when there's a wave of social action like the marches for the Vietnamese War or marches for equal rights or something, then the government has to do something. There's never been a groundswell of public opinion for opening the public archives or to correct the Warren report. Therefore, the government never did anything. People used to say, "What good would one letter do, or what good would marching do?" Well, it did a lot of good. It got rid of Lyndon Johnson.

FP: We would be in China now if it hadn't been for those marches.
MS: That's right. That's right. That's exactly where we'd be. If Fulbright hadn't kept that up and

(Please turn to Page 13)

GET IT TOGETHER——
AND FALL BY THE NEWEST MOST

MORT SAHL: The power in our generation has shifted from Senate to White House to the Pentagon . . .

(Continued from Page 12)

the kids hadn't got their heads opened in the streets, we would be on the mainland of China. No doubt about that. Correct. By the same token, by these people looking the other way and saying we don't need to know, they've given the government all the license it needs to go the rest of the yardage. They gave them the first thirty yards and they took the other seventy. They don't want to know. They don't want to know. In other words, when I risked my career, and I did, and that's fifteen years in show business, you know, I made a million dollars a year, and I go up and I say, "I want to tell you people tonight on the Johnny Carson show that the President was killed by people in the United States government," the fact that they don't take up weapons and do something or write to their Congressmen or at least worry about it in the morning but merely hide and say, "We'd better get out of the way because they're going to hit him and some of the blood might get on our white duck trousers..."

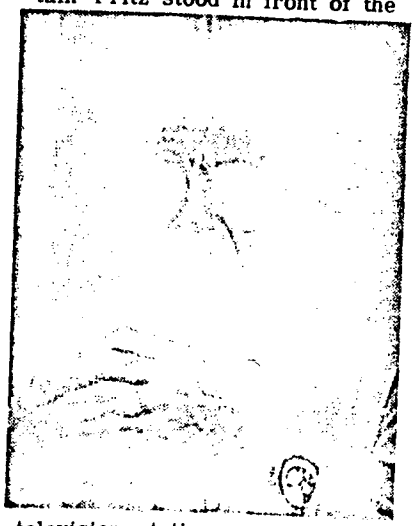
FP: We might be late for work.

MS: That immediately shot me down. I have no constituency. I have no liberals and I have no conservatives, and we certainly have no Social Democrats. We have nothing. We've just got... But what can you do? You can't join the cannibals. We know what's right and we know what's wrong. You don't have to join them. So many have joined them. I think in that sense it's very late. It's the eleventh hour in America. Because when you reveal the facts and no one takes action and you know you're in trouble, you can't tell me that nobody knows. I am the only voice in the entertainment media—any noted performer—who has spoken up on that issue. Not one other person. Paul Newman is a noted liberal, a man who testified before Congress recently, demanded a new Cabinet post, Secretary of Peace. He felt impelled to go to Washington and to suggest that to the Congress. Paul Newman filmed for several months a movie called "The Hall of Mirrors" in New Orleans. He didn't seek out the District Attorney to find out whether he's a gross liar. Or a maniac. Or power-hungry.

FP: He stood clear of that.

MS: He never went near him. No American people don't know. I went on every station I could get on and I told them. I stuck my neck out, and they know now. I don't think there's anyone in this country who believes the Warren report.

FP: I think they knew on November 22, 1963, when that unconvincing Chief Curry and Captain Fritz stood in front of the



television station cameras and CBS and NBC asked them—what? an hour and a half after the President was shot?—they said, "We have the assassin, he is in custody, the case is closed." Wasn't that about an hour and and a half ter he was shot? And the newsmen asked, "Well, aren't you going to pick up other suspects; aren't you going to interview other suspicious people?" And they said, "Oh, no, no, no. The case is closed. The case is closed." I don't think the American public bought that, on the day he was shot. I couldn't buy it. It sounded like a used car salesman telling me that they really didn't put something in the oil or they didn't switch batteries.

MS: You know, I brought the case on the Johnny Carson show a year ago last January, and then I arranged with Carson to present Garrison the following week. And Garrison went on to do the entire hour and a half, subject to about fifty-five interruptions by Carson. At that time on the air we showed a photo of ten men in chains [illegible] out of freight yards by the Dallas police and Garrison, with his customary wit, said to Carson, "Which one is the lone assassin?" (Laughter) Carson responded to this by running around the New York area saying, "Garrison is a charlatan," and by barring me from his program, although Garrison was fair. He got knocked out of the ring because his back was turned. Then he climbed back in halfway through. I was a prime mover, I must say, immodestly, in that whole thing—in booking him, in talking to him before he went on, and in being in his corner during that time. Carson was briefed by NBC, legal. He suddenly knew all about the report. And you know, Carson was supposed to have a member of the Warren Commission on to debate with Garrison. No one from the government would appear with the report. And during the thirty-eight months I've been involved in this case, all the time I was on the air, no one from the federal government would come on, to represent the report. Did you know that? Even though we asked them to be on the various programs. Because it's indefensible. It would embarrass anyone.

FP: And if they had a case, I'm sure they would have, if they had a defensible, plausible case.

MS: Of course. There's all kinds of hamstringing that's going on now. There're indications now in the case that the Treasury has been brought into it because people who have volunteered to be witnesses for Garrison have suddenly had the Treasury office going on them—income tax audits. Now, I talked to the two Treasury men in New York who were harassing me, not about my income tax but about the case, and I said to them, I said, "I have very few illusions about your role in this. The President's been murdered and we have reason to believe people in the government did it." And they said to me, "Well, we're not CIA, we're Treasury." Which certainly clarified the three branches of government thing.

FP: When you were on television, a lot of people found it hard to understand what you were talking about when you criticized the all-American, plastic, middle-class woman.

MS: Guys say to me, Mort, why don't you forget all that and have some fun." I'll tell you something They're not having fun. Those guys are not having a good time. They're not making it out there.

JOHN COATS SOON

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FP: He stood clear of that.
MS: He never went near him. No one went near him. In all that time he has retained his virginity in that sense. I'm the only one he knows from this area. I bet he would have known a lot if that man had been found guilty. He'd probably be Vice President of the United States now. Everybody would be cheering, and those reasonable men we were talking about earlier would be there to genuflect and shake his hand. Which is not my concern anyway. That's the way of the world. It always has been. But what I am concerned primarily about is that when you reveal the facts to the people and they're not outraged by them, it's too late for those people. You can't tell me that the

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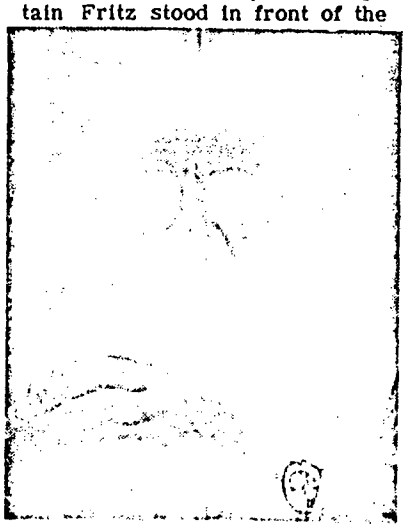

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FP: You know, when Garrison came on Carson's show, he really turned the tables on him. At first they were heckling him, and towards the end of the show he had them applauding him.
MS: Yes, I know that.

FP: And heckling Carson,
MS: He had no idea that Carson was an enemy. He thought Car-

eight months I've been involved in this case, all the time I was on the air, no one from the federal government would come on, to represent the report. Did you know that? Even though we asked them to be on the various programs. Because it's indefensible. It would embarrass anyone.

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